

7 April 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

1. Reference the attached Memorandum for the Record, I discussed the matter with Mr. Sheldon just after our conversation on Friday, the 6th.
2. The briefings that Mr. Bundy refers to (your para 1) consist only of each of the three individuals mentioned separately reading the President's Check List in the presence of Mr. Sheldon or whoever the CIA briefing officer might be. There is no "briefing" in the normal sense of the word. Mr. Sheldon answers any questions that might be asked at the time.
3. If the President has any questions upon reading the Check List, these questions are immediately transmitted by Mr. Bundy to the briefing officer by telephone and the answers are provided to Mr. Bundy.
4. We have already discussed the difficulties of tying the President down at any specific time on any specific day, for any specific duration. Nevertheless, this is the only procedure that has any appeal to me, and we should work directly with the President's personal staff to insure that only the most unusual circumstances will permit interference with a set time and day. If you approve, I can take this up with General Clifton, and I believe, successfully. Please indicate below the most convenient time and day for you. Several choices would be advantageous.
5. As to your paragraph 6, I think this is a fine idea. I would suggest, however, that an effort be made to brief the Vice President, the Attorney General, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Director, Office of Emergency Planning, all at the same time at a mutually agreeable location. This is a sizeable task to undertake and, in order to keep the record straight, should be done by a fairly formal letter over your signature. If you think well of the idea, we will prepare such a letter.
6. Who knows, we might even get NSC back in business.

MSC

Orig - DCI

1 - EO/DCI

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1 - DDCI File

(* DCI Memo for Rec, dtd 7 Apr 62,
re discussion w/ Mr. George Bundy)
(DCI Tele. lett. to D.C. w/ Gen. Clifton
memo.)